



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/797,485	03/09/2004	Vahid Saadat	021496-000130US	3298
40518	7590	10/04/2006	EXAMINER	
LEVINE BAGADE HAN LLP 2483 EAST BAYSHORE ROAD, SUITE 100 PALO ALTO, CA 94303			KASZTEJNA, MATTHEW JOHN	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER

3739

DATE MAILED: 10/04/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/797,485

Applicant(s)

SAADAT ET AL.

Examiner

Matthew J. Kasztejna

Art Unit

3739

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 July 2006.  
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.  
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 67-93 is/are pending in the application.  
4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.  
6) ☒ Claim(s) 67-93 is/are rejected.  
7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.  
8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 09 August 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 3/6/6.  
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.  
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application  
6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Election/Restrictions***

Applicant's election without traverse of Group I, Species I in the reply filed on July 24, 2006 is acknowledged.

### ***Notice of Amendment***

In response to the amendment filed on July 24, 2006, amended claim 67 and new claims 68-93 are acknowledged. The following new grounds of rejection are set forth:

### ***Claim Objections***

Claim 69 is objected to because of the following informalities: the claim refers to "at least one lumen" which was amended to read "at least to ~~9~~ lumens" in independent claim 67. Appropriate correction is required.

*Handwritten signature and date 9/24/06*

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 67-93 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S.

Patent No. 6,800,056 Tartaglia et al.

**In regards to claims 67-68, 85, 87-89 and 92-93,** Tartaglia et al. disclose an endoluminal apparatus comprising: an elongated main body 21 having a proximal end, a distal end and at least two lumens extending through the main body (see Figs. 4a-c), the main body having at least a first section 28 near the proximal end and a second section 26 near the distal end, wherein the first section may be selectively switched between a substantially flexible condition and a substantially rigid condition (see Cols. 2-3), wherein the second section is steerable relative to the first section (see Col. 8, Lines 28-35), and wherein at least one of the sections is comprised of a plurality of adjacent links 30.

**In regards to claim 69,** Tartaglia et al. disclose an endoluminal apparatus, comprises an atraumatic tip having at least one opening corresponding to the at least one lumen (see Fig. 2).

**In regards to claims 70 and 86,** Tartaglia et al. disclose an endoluminal apparatus, wherein the first and/or second sections may be independently switched between a flexible state and a substantially rigid state (see Cols. 2-3).

**In regards to claims 71-74,** Tartaglia et al. disclose an endoluminal apparatus, with the first section or the second section, or both, comprising a plurality of adjacent links, and with substantially each link in the first section configured to allow partial rotation relative to adjacent links and with the links arranged so that the first section can bend in at least two dimensions (see Figs. 2, 8a-b and 9a-c).

**In regards to claim 75,** Tartaglia et al. disclose an endoluminal apparatus, further comprising at least one tensioning element routed through the elongated main

Art Unit: 3739

body, wherein compression of the plurality of adjacent links against one another relative to the tensioning element places at least one of the sections into the substantially rigid condition (see Col. 7, Lines 50-67).

**In regards to claims 76-79**, Tartaglia et al. disclose an endoluminal apparatus, further comprising at least two liners extending along a length of the elongated main body (see Figs. 2 and 4a-c).

**In regards to claims 80-83**, Tartaglia et al. disclose an endoluminal apparatus, further comprising an endoscope extendable through the main body (see Col. 7, Lines 18-50; Figs. 2-3 and 4a-c).

**In regards to claims 84**, Tartaglia et al. disclose an endoluminal apparatus, further comprising a Y-port located along the first section, wherein the Y-port is in communication with at least one lumen extending through the elongated main body (See Fig. 2).

**In regards to claims 90-91**, Tartaglia et al. disclose an endoluminal apparatus, with substantially each first link having a contoured front surface adapted to engage with a contoured back surface of an adjacent first link (see Figs. 2, 8a-b and 9a-c).

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Matthew J. Kasztejna whose telephone number is (571) 272-6086. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri, 8:30-6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Linda C.M. Dvorak can be reached on (571) 272-4764. The fax phone


Art Unit: 3739

number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

MJK *mjk*

9/27/06



LINDA C. M. DVORAK  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
GROUP 3700